



SOUTH CAROLINA DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION

SCHOOL DISTRICT MEMORANDA

ed.sc.gov



February 25, 2020

Important Dates

MARCH 11 : Census Bureau challenge deadline for 2018 LEA poverty and population data

APRIL 3: Deadline to apply for USDA Fresh Fruit and Vegetable Program Subgrant

APRIL 3: [Family Engagement Statewide Summit](#)

APRIL 15: Deadline to apply for Arts Curricular Innovation Grants

APRIL 20: Deadline to apply for 21st Century Community Learning Centers Grant

APRIL 30: District Strategic Plans and School Renewal Plans Due

MAY 5: [South Carolina Teacher of the Year Gala](#)

MAY 15: [Military Honor Cord Ceremony](#)

EARLY LEARNING AND LITERACY

2020–21 District and School Reading Plans

AUDIENCE: District Superintendents, District Instructional Leaders, Elementary Principals
District Strategic Plan Contacts

CONTACT: Marie Gibbons, 803-734-0529, mgibbons@ed.sc.gov

The Read to Succeed Act requires that the South Carolina Department of Education (SCDE), with the approval of the State Board of Education (SBE), develop, implement, evaluate, and continuously refine a comprehensive state plan for prekindergarten through grade twelve to improve reading achievement. The South Carolina State Reading Plan has been developed to guide the support of the SCDE for districts and schools. The South Carolina State Reading Plan also provides guidance to district and school plans as they work to support the reading and writing development of their students with research-based, outcomes oriented strategies.

District Strategic Plans and School Renewal Plans are due **April 30, 2020**. The district and school reading plans should be submitted as a part of these annual strategic plans.

[2020–21 District and School Reading Plans \(due April 30\) - Memo](#) PDF (180 KB)

FAMILY AND COMMUNITY

Family Engagement Statewide Summit

AUDIENCE: District Superintendents, Principals, Parent Liaisons, Community Partners

CONTACT: Lisa Jenkins, ljenkins@ed.sc.gov

The South Carolina Department of Education will host a Family Engagement Statewide Summit (Summit) on **Friday, April 3, 2020**, from 8:30 a.m.–4:00 p.m., at the Columbia Conference Center, located at 169 Laurelhurst Avenue in Columbia. The Summit is free and open to persons whose primary job responsibilities include leading or co-facilitating family engagement initiatives at the school and/or district level(s). The Summit is also open to community agencies, faith-based entities, and nonprofit organizations.

Registration is open at [this link](#).

[Family Engagement Statewide Summit - Memo](#) PDF (142 KB)

Invitation to Participate in Event Honoring Students Entering the Military

AUDIENCE: District Superintendents, High School Principals, Public Information Officers, School Counselors

CONTACT: events@ed.sc.gov or 803-734-0183.

South Carolina is proud to support its military and military connected families. In an effort to recognize our students entering branches of the military or attending a military service academy, we will continue to provide red, white, and blue honor cords to be worn during graduation ceremonies. Thank you for participating in this program to honor the commitment these students are making to serve our country. Beginning in April 2020, cords will be shipped to school district offices with directions for distribution to the schools.

Students entering the military following graduation are also invited to attend a public ceremony where state education and military leaders will publicly recognize them.

Date: Friday, May 15, 2020

Time: 11:00 a.m.

Location: The Solomon Center at Fort Jackson, 6510 Strom Thurmond Blvd, Columbia, SC 29207

We invite your military bound students, their parents, and school representatives to attend this ceremony and ask that you please submit your information by [accessing and completing this form](#) no later than **Friday, May 8, 2020**, if your school plans to attend.

[Invitation to Participate in Event Honoring Students Entering the Military](#) PDF (227 KB)

FINANCE

Requirements to Employ Retired Individuals for School Year 2020–21

AUDIENCE: District Superintendents, Human Resource Directors, School Business Officials

CONTACT: Nancy Williams, 803-734-8122, nwilliams@ed.sc.gov

The memorandum linked below illustrates the requirements for all critical need designations which may be used to determine the eligibility of retired teachers to be employed and exempt from the earnings limitations imposed by S.C. Code Ann. §9-1-1790.

[Requirements to Employ Retired Individuals for School Year 2020–21 - Memo](#) PDF (227 KB)

[Attachment - Assurance Form](#) PDF (262 KB)

GRANTS

Arts Curricular Innovation Grants—Distinguished Arts Program Grant Opportunity

AUDIENCE: District Superintendents, Principals, Principals
CONTACT: Scott Scrivner, 803-734-6019, sscrivner@ed.sc.gov

The South Carolina Department of Education (SCDE) announces that the 2020–21 Request for Proposals for the Arts Curricular Innovation Grants (ACIG)—Distinguished Arts Program grant is now available online. Approximately \$1.4 million in funding will be distributed on a competitive basis and the deadline to apply is **April 15, 2020**.

The SCDE will offer a technical assistance webinar for interested grant applicants on **March 5, 2020**, from 4:00 p.m.–5:30 p.m., via [Adobe Connect](#).

[Arts Curricular Innovation Grants--Distinguished Arts Program Grant Opportunity - Memo](#) PDF (145 KB)

HEALTH AND NUTRITION

S.C. Department of Health & Environmental Control Resources

The South Carolina Department of Health and Environmental Control has provided the below resources to schools and districts regarding COVID-19 and school and childcare immunization requirements for the 2020-2021 school year.

[Guidance for Schools and Out-of-Home Child Care Centers: 2019 Novel Coronavirus \(COVID-19\)](#)

[School and Childcare Immunization Requirements for the 2020-2021 School Year](#)

[2020-2021 Back to School Immunization Toolkit](#)

2020–21 USDA Fresh Fruit and Vegetable Program Subgrant Opportunity

AUDIENCE: District Superintendents, Principals, Principals
CONTACT: Diane D. Gillie, 803-734-8193, dgillie@ed.sc.gov

The South Carolina Department of Education (SCDE) announces that the 2020–21 application for the Fresh Fruit and Vegetable Program subgrant is now available online. Funding will be distributed to elementary schools with the highest percentage of students eligible for free and reduced-priced meals (at least 50 percent or higher). The deadline to apply is **April 3, 2020**.

The SCDE will offer a technical assistance webinar for subgrant applicants on **March 20, 2020**, from 10:00–11:00 a.m. via [Adobe Connect](#).

[2020–21 USDA Fresh Fruit and Vegetable Program Subgrant Opportunity - Memo](#) PDF (135 KB)

USDA Foods Distribution Rate for Recipient Agencies

AUDIENCE: District Superintendents

CONTACT: Phil Truesdale, 803-734-1998, ptruesdale@ed.sc.gov

Pursuant to the contract between the South Carolina Department of Education (SCDE) and US Foods Inc. for the distribution of USDA Foods in South Carolina, US Foods has requested and the SCDE has granted a price increase in the delivery charge from \$3.15 to \$3.45 per case. Rising operating costs are the driving forces behind this increase. This change will take effect on July 1, 2020. All other terms and conditions of the contract will remain the same.

[USDA Foods Distribution Rate for Recipient Agencies - Memo](#) PDF (135 KB)

PERSONALIZED LEARNING

Montessori School Survey

AUDIENCE: Chief Academic Officers, Montessori Principals

CONTACT: Kristen Logan, 803-734-1213, klogan@ed.sc.gov

The South Carolina Department of Education (SCDE) Office of Personalized Learning is excited to highlight the Montessori opportunities offered across the state. South Carolina is one of the nation's leading states in Montessori programming. If you are a Chief Academic Officer who has Montessori programs, or are a Principal who has a Montessori program, please complete [this form](#) so that we can ensure we have accurate information for each respective Montessori program.

The data from this form will be posted on the SCDE website to inform others around the state and country about Montessori opportunities that are available in South Carolina.

[Montessori School Survey - Memo](#) PDF (137 KB)

